

The Burning Of Bridget Cleary Angela Bourke

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recounts the march 1895 murder of 26 year old bridget cleary in rural ireland the trial of her husband and family the extensive media coverage and the politicization of the crime

in this vigorous study seventeen leading irish artists critics and cultural commentators explore the neglected theme of wilde s irishness jacket

the highly performative categories of irish culture and irishness are in need of critical address prompted by recent changes in irish society the arts industry and modes of critical inquiry this book broaches this task by considering irish expressive culture through some of the paradigms and vocabularies offered by performance studies

this book considers the cultural residue from pre christian ireland in synge s plays and performances by dramatising a residual culture in front of a predominantly modern and political irish catholic middle class audience the book argues that synge attempted to offer an alternative understanding of what it meant to be modern at the beginning of the twentieth century the book draws extensively on synge s archive to demonstrate how pre christian residual culture informed not just how he wrote and staged pre christian beliefs but also how he thought about an older almost forgotten culture that catholic ireland desperately wanted to forget each of synge s plays is considered in an individual chapter and they identify how synge s dramaturgy was informed by pre christian beliefs of animism pantheism folklore superstition and magical ritual

irish women writers have a large following and their works are attracting large amounts of scholarly and critical attention through roughly 75 alphabetically arranged entries written by more than 35 expert contributors this reference overviews the lives and works of irish women writers active in a range of genres and periods each entry includes a brief biography a discussion of major works and themes a survey of the writer s critical reception and a list of works by and about the author the volume closes with a selected general bibliography ireland has an especially lively literary tradition and works by irish writers have long been recognized as interesting and influential while male writers have received the bulk of the critical attention given to irish literature contemporary women writers are among the most widely read irish authors this reference overviews the lives and works of irish women writers active in a range of periods and genres included are roughly 75 alphabetically arranged entries written by more than 35 expert contributors among the writers discussed are elizabeth bowen mary dorsey lady isabella augusta gregory anne hartigan norah hault paula meehan iris murdoch edna o brien katharine tynan sheila wingfield and many more each entry includes a brief biography a discussion of major works and themes a review of the writer s

critical reception and a list of works by and about the writer the volume closes with a selected general bibliography

this book offers an original interdisciplinary analysis of the relations between myth identity and social reality involving elements of narratology theory linguistics philosophy anthropology and social theory harnessed to support an argument firmly located in the area of literary criticism this analysis yields a fairly extensive reinterpretation of the concept of myth which is applied to the examination of the relationship between narrative and social reality as represented in texts by contemporary scottish and irish women writers the main theoretical sources are mikhaïl bakhtin's theories of heteroglossia jacques derrida's theories of citationality and judith butler's theories of subjectivity the analysis framework developed in the book uses these theories to create a new way of understanding how literary texts change readers worldviews by enticing them to accept alternative possibilities of cultural expression of identity and social order the texts analysed in this book reconfigure naturalised stories that have become normative and constraining in conveying identities and visions of legitimate social orders the book's focus on feminine identities places it alongside feminist analyses of reconstructions of fairy tales myths or canonical stories that establish what counts as legitimate feminine identity studied here for the first time together the writers whose texts form the interest of this book continue the revisionist work begun by other women writers who engage with the male generated literary philosophical and humanist tradition they share a view of narratives as tools for continually negotiating our identities social worlds and socialisation scenarios while the high level theoretical discourse of the first part of the book requires specialised knowledge the second part of the book offering close readings of the texts is both lively and accessible and should engage the interest of the general reader and academic alike this book is written for all those who are interested in the power words have to hold sway over our inner and outer social worlds

monsters are a part of every society and ours is no exception they are deeply embedded in our history our mythos and our culture however treating them as simply a facet of children's stories or escapist entertainment belittles their importance when examined closely we see that monsters have always represented the things we fear that which is different which we can't understand which is

dangerous which is other but in many ways monsters also represent our growing awareness of ourselves and our changing place in a continually shrinking world contemporary portrayals of the monstrous often have less to do with what we fear in others than with what we fear about ourselves what we fear we might be capable of the nineteen essays in this volume explore the place and function of the monstrous in a variety of media stories and novels like baum's oz books or gibson's neuromancer television series and feature films like the walking dead or edward scissorhands and myths and legends like beowulf and the loch ness monster in order to provide a closer understanding of not just who we are and who we have been but also who we believe we can be for better or worse

this anthology examines love's labours lost from a variety of perspectives and through a wide range of materials selections discuss the play in terms of historical context dating and sources character analysis comic elements and verbal conceits evidence of authorship performance analysis and feminist interpretations alongside theater reviews production photographs and critical commentary the volume also includes essays written by practicing theater artists who have worked on the play an index by name literary work and concept rounds out this valuable resource

this book presents the stories of men and women charged with murder in nineteenth century ireland some were found guilty and sentenced to death and others were sent to the central criminal asylum for ireland at dundrum for those considered to be insane at the time of committing the crime their fate was an indefinite committal to dundrum for those considered responsible for their actions it meant the death sentence which in the first half of the century was often reduced to transportation and in the second half of the century to penal servitude within the prison system drawing on her specialist knowledge of mental health policy and law and with unique access to convict records prior explores these crimes within the context of criminal justice policies in ireland at this time her examination of previously unexamined records shows that court judgments were highly gendered the death penalty remained a possibility for anyone found guilty of murder and while the execution of a woman was unusual it did occur however with the opening of a criminal lunatic asylum in 1850 a new approach was possible men who killed women and women who killed children began to use the insanity defence very successfully for some this was a positive outcome leading to a short

period of detention in dundrum but for others it led to a lifetime in an asylum for those found guilty of the crime the most frequent outcome was a long stretch in prison an interesting outcome for many of these convicts was official assistance in emigrating to the us at the end of their sentences a theme explored in the final chapter if you are interested in crime in ireland in the link between mental disorder and crime or in the impact of gender on crime and its punishment this book is for you

this book is a collection of critical essays about various aspects of eilis ni dhuibhne s writing

ireland s foremost female writers of the nineteenth century edith somerville and martin ross advocated the high art of comedy during the period of transition and turbulence in the irish countryside this critical biography of their collaboration from 1890 to martin ross s death in 1915 studies the self conscious artistry of the creators of the finest novel of the nineteenth century the real charlotte 1894 it considers the influence of both popular culture and high art in the treatment of the volatile irish landscape and looks for the first time at the contexts of the immensely popular irish r m stories and edith somerville s accompanying illustrations the writers sly send ups of romantic notions of irishness are revealed while using certain expectations of a picturesque countryside to their own advantage the book recontextualizes the writers fiction and illustrations through inter disciplinary and cross cultural methods by considering the influence of the visual arts theatrical production antiquarian study and literature derived from irish british and european sources in addition to somerville and ross s interest in popular and elite art forms the book stresses the writers all consuming interest in land politics suffragism the irish character and the irish language the workings of the law in the irish countryside and above all money and its lack in the small farms and cottages of ireland

different beliefs practices and rituals behind the notion of their magical powers and virtues are revealed the situations in which people resorted to them are also examined selecting chieftains establishing the truth curing sickness and promoting fertility in conclusion the role of sacred stones in the religious and spiritual life of modern ireland is described this is a reminder of our spiritual past as some of

these stones and monuments enter their fifth millennium jacket

the finding of two dead babies within the space of a fortnight in county kerry in 1984 is an extraordinary story that rocked catholic ireland the kerry babies case is still unresolved with many unanswered questions did joanne hayes have twins did the gardai the irish police intimidate her family into confessing their involvement in the murder of one of the babies the tribunal which examined the case largely exonerated the gardai and blamed the family yet as a result of the case the murder squad was disbanded and a garda complaints board established tom inglis in his detailed analysis of the case explains that it is obviously important to retell the story because justice might not have been done but he goes further to explain how the case is an important part of understanding how the second half of 20th century ireland saw a transition from a traditional rural conservative and catholic society to the modern urban liberal and secular one which is emerging today in particular the case represents a watershed for the position of women in irish society many were motivated to protest for the first time

intended as a response to the publication the field day anthology of irish writing in 1991 this collection of essays examines the canonical status of writers such as joyce yeats and beckett how postcolonial theory and criticism have reshaped the boundaries of irish studies and how women s writing has challenged canonicity as a concept

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